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In the Claims:

Claims 1-20 canceled without prejudice.

Claims 21-40 are new.

21. (New) A substantially pure or recombinant polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or a fragment thereof.
22. (New) The polypeptide of Claim 21, wherein the fragment is:
- a) at least 8 amino acids in length;
 - b) at least 12 amino acids in length;
 - c) at least 16 amino acids in length; or
 - d) at least 20 amino acids in length.
23. (New) A fusion protein comprising the polypeptide of Claim 1 and a fusion partner.
24. (New) The fusion protein of Claim 23, wherein the fusion partner is selected from the group consisting of:
- a) a FLAG sequence;
 - b) a histidine tag;
 - c) glutathione S-transferase; and
 - d) β -galactosidase.
25. (New) A composition comprising the polypeptide of Claim 21 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
26. (New) An antibody or binding fragment thereof which specifically binds the polypeptide of Claim 21.

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27. (New) The antibody or binding fragment of Claim 26, wherein the antibody is:
- a) a polyclonal antibody;
 - b) a monoclonal antibody;
 - c) a humanized antibody; or
 - d) a chimeric antibody
28. (New) The antibody or binding fragment thereof, wherein the binding fragment is:
- a) an Fab fragment;
 - b) an Fab' fragment;
 - c) an F(ab)₂ fragment;
 - d) an Fv fragment; or
 - e) a single chain antibody.
29. (New) The antibody or binding fragment of Claim 26 which is detectably labeled.
30. (New) An isolated or purified polynucleotide which encodes a polypeptide of Claim 1 or fragment thereof.
31. (New) The polynucleotide of Claim 30, wherein the polynucleotide comprises SEQ ID NO:1.
32. (New) The polynucleotide of Claim 30 which is detectably labeled.
33. (New) An expression vector comprising the polynucleotide of Claim 30.
34. (New) A purified or isolated host cell comprising the expression vector of Claim 33.

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35. (New) A method of production a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 comprising:

a) culturing the host cell of Claim 34 under conditions suitable for production of the polypeptide; and

b) isolating or purifying the polypeptide.

36. (New) A method of modulating the physiology of a cell expressing a receptor for SEQ ID NO:2, comprising contacting the cell with an agonist or antagonist of a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2, or fragment thereof.

37. (New) The method of Claim 36, wherein the agonist activates a STAT3 phosphorylation.

38. (New) The method of Claim 36, wherein the antagonist is an antibody or binding fragment thereof which specifically binds to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2.

39. (New) A method of treating an abnormal immune response with an agonist or antagonist of a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or fragment thereof.

40. (New) The method of Claim 39, wherein the antagonist is an antibody or binding fragment thereof.